Gandhian Institute, Varanasi

3267. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Gandhian Institute at Varanasi has been taken over by Government; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons for doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Performance of Government aided/managed schools

3268. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the performance of Government aided/managed schools across the country;

(b) whether any student(s) has/have got distinction or merit;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) As per the information provided by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the performance of Government and Government aided schools in the Class X and XII examination conducted by it is as follows :–

Pass percentage in Government aided/managed schools:

Government		Government Aided	
X	XII	X	XII
40.05%	65.27%	59.00%	76.28%

CBSE awards subject-wise Merit Certificate to 0.1 per cent of

successful candidates in each subject. Number of students awarded Merit Certificates in 2003 examination is given below :–

Government		Government Aided	
X	XII	X	XII
54	114	15	26

The Government of India maintains no data on the performance of Government aided/managed schools.

Use of sub-standard material in gauge conversion

3269. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that sub-standard and low quality mateial has been used in conversion of rail lines into broad-gauge ones;

(b) whether it is a fact that for the newly upgraded broad gauge track between Guwahati and Dibrugarh the speed limit is restricted to between 50 to 80 kms. per hour against the normal broad gauge speed of 110 to 120 kms.; and

(c) if so, whether it is largely attributable to the low quality material used in upgrading this track from metre gauge to broad gauge, and the outcome of enquiries made into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The material used in gauge, conversion is as per the prescribed standards and quality.

(b) At present, the maximum sectional speed of Guwahati-Dibrugarh section (559 km.) is 100 km/h except Guwahati-Kamrupkheri (45 km.), Lumbing-Dimapur (69 km.) and Tinsukia-Dibrugarh (44 km.)-sections where it is 90 km/h, 80 km/h and 75 km/h respectively on account of many high degree curves as the section is on difficult terrain.

(c) No, Sir. And consequently, the question of any enquiry does not arise.

Rail project in J and K by KRCL

3270. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: